Misappropriation of Funds by former CMD of CCI

1119. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the CCI Officers' Association alleging gross mismanagement and misappropriation of funds running into crores of rupees by the Company's former Chairman and Managing Director, Anand Darbari;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the allegations levelled by the Association;

(d) if so, what is the result thereof stating the level at which inquiry was conducted by Government; and

(e) what action has been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The CCI Officers' Association has submitted a Memorandum alleging misappropriation of funds and various acts of irregularities committed by the former CMD, CCI, such as bungling in purchase of coal, appointment of favoured persons as Handling and Transport contractors, procurement of HDPE/Paper bags at abnormally high rates, diversion of funds etc.

(c) to (e) No separate enquiry has been made into the allegations levelled by the Association. However, in connection with some allegations and complaints received earlier, Govt, has already constituted an Inter-Departmental Committee of Officers to look into the matter. The Delhi High Court has, however, restrained Government from taking action on the basis of report of the Committee until further orders.

PSUs running in Losses

1120. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Public Sector Units running into losses during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the loss incurred by each PSU during this period;

(c) the number of persons employed in each unit;

(d) the steps taken and results achieved to ameliorate their condition; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to close down any of such unit in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAIKATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Names of Central PSUs that have incurred losses in the last 3 years, namely, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98, the period till which the information is available, including unit-wise losses and number of persons employed are available at statement 7B and 28 respectively of Volume-I, Public Enterprises Survey 1997-98, which was laid in the Parliament on 26.02.99 and is a published document.

(d) It is the constant endeavor of the Government to revive and turn around such units. Administrative Ministries undertake enterprise specific measures. Besides, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) have sanctioned revival scheme for 23 CPSUs, of which 5 units are no longer sick and for remaining other 18 units, revival schemes are at different stages of implementation. General measures adopted by the Government and the management of PSUs have been indicated at page-135, Volume-I, Public Enterprise Survey, 1997-98.

(e) BIFR has recommended winding up of 9 units. Government have decided to "wind up' Indian Road Construction Corporation Ltd. and has forwarded its stand for winding up or otherwise to BIFR in case of Bharat Gold Mines Ltd., and Nagaland Pulp & Paper Mills Ltd.

Joint Venture Partner for HPF

1121. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to refer to reply to Starred Question 201 given in Rajya Sabha on 13th December, 1999 and state:

(a) whether a joint venture partner has been located, by now, to revive Hindustan Photo Films (HPF) under the aegis of the BIFR.

(b) by when Government will convert HPF into a Joint Venture Company without affecting the interests of the workers;

(c) whether Government are aware that delay in taking decisions to revive a company will further make it sick; and